[8th September 1928

Purchase of Mangalore tiles by Government.

*270 Q.—Mr A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether in the estimates prepared by the Public Works Department for works involving the use of Mangalore tiles, provision is made for the use of those made only by a few of the manufacturers;

(b) if so, who those manufacturers are; and

(c) the reasons for their selection in preference to others?

A.—The Government understand that in the Madras city no particular make of Mangalore tiles is specified in the estimates for works but that the Executive Engineers select the best type available in the market which conforms to the Public Works Department specification and stands the absorption test. There is no information as to the practice prevailing in the mufassal but there is no reason to suppose that it is different from that followed in the city.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"Has the hon. Minister satisfied himself that the practice obtaining in the mufassal is or is not different?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"Certainly, I will."

Co-operative Societies

Execution of decrees by the Co-operative department.

*271 Q.—Mr. A. Parasurama Rao: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints that much difficulty is felt by the Co-operative Department in the matter of executing their decrees as the Revenue Department refuse to execute more than 40 decrees in a year in each taluk;

(b) whether they have received any representation that unless powers of destraint are given to the co-operators themselves, the chances of satisfactory collections will be few; and

(c) whether the Government propose contemplating to amend the Co-operative Societies Act in such a way as to give powers to the office-bearers of unions and federations to distrain the property of the defaulters?

A.—(a) No such complaints have been received by Government.

(b) No.

(c) No such proposal is under the consideration of Government just now.

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar:—"Is the hon. Minister aware that in every annual co-operative conference held in this province and in the provincial conferences this request is being repeatedly made?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"Yes."

Mr. R. Nagan Gowda:—"May I know if this subject was discussed in the last collectors' conference and if so, what the conclusions were?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"The conclusions are that the practice in other provinces must be enquired into."